Pollution around Taj

237. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the 1st day of 350th Anniversary of Taj Mahal on 27th September, 2004 experienced suspended particulate matters (SPM) level in air at 317.75 micro grams per cubic metre, move than three times of permitted level;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to avoid pollution around Taj Mahal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Setting up of food parks

†238. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of food parks targeted to be set up during the current Five Year Plan;

(b) the number of food parks established so far, State-wise;

(c) whether there is any proposal to sanction food parks during the current financial year for those State where no food parks are established so far; and

(d) if so, the names of places in Uttaranchal where such food parks are targeted to be established?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAI): (a) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not set up food parks on its own but provides financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid to various implementing agencies, for creation of common facilities in Food Parks. During the Tenth Five Year Plan, the Ministry has approved 18 food parks so far. During the Tenth Plan period, 25 food parks are targeted to be assisted.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) The Ministry has approved a total of 47 food parks for financial assistance, so far, since inception of the scheme. The number of food parks approved, State-wise, is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) The Plan Schemes of the Ministry are not State specific and are open to all implementing agencies in all States. The grant of assistance is considered based on completed and viable project proposals received from the implementing agencies in various States, duly appraised by Banks/Financial Institutions and recommended by the respective State nodal agencies. No viable project proposal for setting up of food park in Uttaranchal duly recommended by State Nodal Agency, Uttaranchal has been received in the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.

Statement

State-wise number of Food Parks approved by the Ministry.

State	No. of Food Parks approved by Ministry of Food Processing Industries
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	1
Assam	1
Bihar	1
Chhattisgarh	1
Haryana	2
Jammu & Kashmir	3
Karnataka	3
Kerala	3
Madhya Pradesh	6
Maharashtra	5
Manipur	2
Mizoram	1

1	2
Orissa	1
Punjab	1
Rajasthan	3
Tamil Nadu	1
Tripura	1
Uttar Pradesh	5
West Bengal	6

UK's assistance for tackling AIDS

239. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that UK has offered 1.5 billion pounds for tackling AIDS in India;

(b) if so, the details of the project;

(c) what is the extent of AIDS menace in the country; and

(d) the details of fresh initiatives undertaken to control the disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) At the launch of its strategy 'Taking Action for tackling HIV and AIDS in the developing world' in July-2004, the UK Government announced a commitment of 1.5 billion pounds for AIDS all over the world over three years. In India, they are already supporting National AIDS Control Programme since 2000-01 with a financial assistance to the tune of 28.1 million pounds which has since been enhanced to 123 million pounds including 7.26 million pounds allocation for UNAIDS in India, for a period upto March 2007.

(c) As per the report received from States/Union Territories, a cumulative number of 91,080 AIDS cases have been reported in the country as on 31st October, 2004.